

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 2000-0033-C - ORDER NO. 2000-618
AUGUST 1, 2000

IN RE: HTC Communications, Inc.,)	ORDER GRANTING
)	MOTION FOR
Complainant/Petitioner,)	CONFIDENTIAL
)	TREATMENT
vs.)	
)	
AT&T Communications of the)	
Southern States, Inc.,)	
)	
Respondent/Defendant.)	

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the "Commission") by way of a Motion for Confidential Treatment filed by AT&T Communications of the Southern States, Incorporated ("AT&T"). More specifically, AT&T moves for the Commission to order the confidential treatment of certain responses by AT&T to interrogatories filed by the Office of the Consumer Advocate of South Carolina ("Consumer Advocate"). The underlying issue in this case involves a complaint filed by HTC Communications, Incorporated ("HTCC") on January 17, 2000, against AT&T.

On April 14, 2000, the Consumer Advocate filed a Petition to Intervene in this matter and on April 26, 2000, the Consumer Advocate filed Interrogatories of the Consumer Advocate to AT&T (Set No. 1) with the Commission. AT&T, on May 9,

2000, filed its Responses to Interrogatories of the Consumer Advocate to AT&T (Set No. 1) with the Commission. Then on June 21, 2000, AT&T filed with the Commission Supplemental Responses to the Interrogatories of the Consumer Advocate. In its Supplemental Responses, AT&T referred to Attachment A in Response 1-7 and Attachment B in Response 1-8. AT&T and the Consumer Advocate have entered into a Protective Agreement regarding the information AT&T has provided to the Consumer Advocate in Attachment A and Attachment B.

AT&T states in its Motion for Confidential Treatment that the information contained in Attachment A and Attachment B contain sensitive, proprietary information constituting trade secrets that are the commercially valuable property of AT&T. Additionally, according to the Motion for Confidential Treatment, Attachment A contains data relating to the flow-through of access-charge reductions via particular pricing mechanisms and Attachment B contains data relating to AT&T's internal quality of service measurements.

AT&T requests that the Commission order that Attachment A and Attachment B be held and treated as confidential. In addition, AT&T requests that Attachment A and Attachment B not be made available to any person or entity until such person or entity has executed a Protective Agreement in favor of AT&T substantially in the form of an agreement similar to the Protective Agreement entered into by AT&T and the Consumer Advocate. AT&T also requests that the Commission order that Attachment A and Attachment B not be made available to any person or entity until AT&T has been given

not less than ten (10) days notice of the proposed access in which time AT&T may, if it wishes, object to the Commission to such person or entity being granted access.

We find that the information contained in Attachment A and Attachment B is proprietary because it contains sensitive information constituting trade secrets that are the commercially valuable property of AT&T. We also find AT&T's request that Attachment A and Attachment B be held and treated as confidential, and that Attachment A and Attachment B not be made available to any person or entity until such person or entity has executed a Protective Agreement in favor of AT&T substantially in the form of the Agreement attached to the Motion For Confidential Treatment reasonable. Additionally, we also find AT&T's request that AT&T be given not less than ten (10) days notice of the proposed access in which time AT&T may, if it wishes, object to the Commission to such person or entity being granted access reasonable.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That AT&T's Attachment A and Attachment B in its Supplemental Responses to the Consumer Advocate's Interrogatories shall be deemed confidential and proprietary.
2. Attachment A and Attachment B shall not be made available to any person or entity until (1) such person or entity has executed a Protective Agreement in favor of AT&T substantially in the form of the Protective Agreement entered into by AT&T and the Consumer Advocate, and (2) AT&T shall be given not less than ten (10) days notice of the proposed access in which time AT&T may, if it wishes, object to the Commission to such person or entity being granted access.

AUGUST 1, 2000

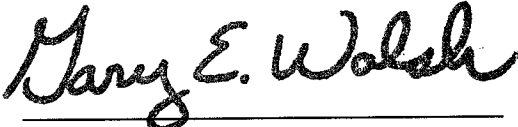
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3. This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of this Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:


Chairman

ATTEST:


Executive Director

(SEAL)